

It is a pleasure to honor Leamon King, who has made and continues to make a difference for California youth and the Latino community.

CONDEMNING HEINOUS ATROCITIES THAT OCCURRED AT SANTANA HIGH SCHOOL, SANTEE, CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2001

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. Speaker, what are we to make of the most recent school shooting in California? How do we respond to events that are so beyond belief, so tragic that goodness in our world appears no stronger than a flickering flame on a shrinking wick?

The accused is a scrawny, quiet fifteen-year-old named Andy. He was relentlessly picked on at his new school in San Diego. A victim of bullies, he found no refuge in his broken home. He longed for a relationship with his estranged mother. He searched for acceptance. "He tried to act cool, but he wasn't cool," said one skateboarder who saw him trying to fit in with a rougher crowd. He was relentlessly hounded for his haircut, his voice, and his clothes. Andy reached out to old friends. "He told me many times that I was the reason he hadn't killed himself," his closest friend from Maryland said.

Within minutes of the shooting, the televisions blared with quick-fix commentary. Gun control. Lack of self-control. Blame the parents. Blame the schools. The answers seemed empty, earthly, leaving many with more questions and more confusion.

I trust you will agree that Andy's actions are a condition of the heart. The answer lies in something more than smaller classroom sizes or higher test scores.

Tragically, a dark shadow of spiritual emptiness has eclipsed our reliance on the truth and dignity that come from a belief in God—the very essence of what provides us with guidance, worth, and meaning. I humbly offer this saying from Dorothy Sayers who writes that the problem is "the sin that believes in nothing, cares for nothing, seeks to know nothing, interferes with nothing, enjoys nothing, lives for nothing, finds purpose in nothing, and remains alive because there is nothing for which it will die."

That, my friends, is the challenge of our time. It is the desperate calls of Andy and the despondent cries of the victims. Our youth are looking for something beyond the nothing. It is my prayer that we give them a reason to believe.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN E. RUDOLPH

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2001

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to salute an exceptional citizen and good friend of mine, John E. Rudolph.

John, the founder of Lima, Ohio-based Rudolph Foods Company, was recently pre-

sented with the Snack Food Association's (SFA) 2001 Circle of Honor Award. John and his wife, Mary, have transformed their small company that sold Mexican specialty snacks into the world's largest producer of pork rinds. In 1984 he was the first non-potato chip manufacturer to be elected SFA chairman. John's career path certainly exemplifies the American dream.

John has been an asset not only to his business, but also our country and his community. After graduating from college he served as an artilleryman in World War II. An active member in the community; he has been president of the Lima Rotary Club, president of St. Luke's Lutheran Church, chairman of the Lima YMCA and a member of the board of directors of Lima Memorial Hospital.

I would like to thank John on behalf of the people in the snack food industry, and the city of Lima for all of his service and devotion. Congratulations, John, on the fine award.

MARCH SCHOOL OF THE MONTH

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2001

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have named Powell's Lane Elementary School in Westbury as School of the Month in the Fourth Congressional District for March 2001. In February, Powell's Lane won Newsday's Stock Market Game for the third time.

John Ogilvie is Principal of Powell's Lane Elementary, and Dr. Constance R. Clark is the Superintendent of Schools for the Westbury School District.

I'm so excited to have such an innovative and remarkable school as School of the Month. Powell's Lane is singlehandedly training future Wall Street investors. There was a time when the stock market was too daunting and confusing even for adults, but new computer technology and the use of the web has cut through to many barriers—and Powell is making that happen every day.

Recently, Powell's Lane received the New York State School of Excellence Award, and is one of seven schools nominated by the state for the U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Schools 2000–2001 Elementary School Program.

Powell's academic record—and their national recognition as a "Blue Ribbon School" nominee—displays the qualities of excellence that consistently train Long Island's students to excel through the rest of their lives.

The mission of Powell's Lane Elementary School focuses on child development, blending in academic achievement and social relationships. Powell's Lane Elementary teaches students in grades 3, 4 and 5, and has many achievements and programs of note. The students are involved in community outreach such as helping with Newsday's "Help a Family" campaign.

I commend Powell's Lane Elementary School for its innovation, and I look forward to great achievement from Powell's students.

IN HONOR OF GEORGE BECKER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of George Becker, the recently retired president of the United Steelworkers of America. Through his leadership, courage and determination, labor unions across our nation have been revitalized and reenergized with a newfound strength.

George Becker became a member of the United Steelworkers of America when he became a mill worker in Granite City, Illinois. His determination and dedication to helping others allowed his ascent to the presidency of the union. As a vice-president of the United Steelworkers, George Becker organized a strike against Ravenswood Aluminum Corporation. Lasting over twenty months, the eventual resolution benefited steelworkers. The first major strike in years to offer positive tangible results, the Ravenswood protest was just the beginning of how George Becker worked to organize and lead the labor movement.

Upon becoming the president of the United Steelworkers of America, George Becker promptly restructured the union, bringing new efficiencies and operational improvements. He also worked to redefine its mission, so that the union would help foster new leaders for tomorrow. Creating the Legislative Internship Project, George Becker invited young people to become involved in the labor movement. He fostered a sense of community from within, and as President Becker was able to create a stronger labor union with a newfound political clout.

George Becker has continually fought and stood up for the steel industry in the United States. He founded Stand Up For Steel, an alliance of unions and steel manufacturers. United to help stop unfair trade practices, Stand Up For Steel has become an important organization in the battle to promote fair trade.

As George Becker ends his long term of service to the United Steelworkers of America, he leaves behind a stronger, more assertive union. He has spent a lifetime helping his fellow workers by representing and expressing their needs and concerns. My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. George Becker.

TRIBUTE TO VERA FIGUEROA

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to salute Vera Figueroa, of California. Vera has been recognized by Adelante, California Migrant Leadership Council and American Legion Merle Reed Post 124 as an outstanding individual who has made significant contributions to the improvement of education opportunities for Latino Children in California.

Delano High School Board Member, a highly respected community leader and cultural dance instructor, Vera has made major contributions to the youth and parents over the past years.